

REMARKS:

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Examiner's comments in the Office Action and have prepared the following response.

Claims 1-9 and 11-19 have been cancelled.

Claims 10 and 20-22 remain pending in the application.

Initially, Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 10 and 20-22 are allowable. By this paper, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-9 and 11-19 as noted above. As a result, Applicants believe the application is now in condition for allowance.

While Applicants have cancelled the rejected claims from this application, the cancellation of these claims is not to be construed as an acquiescence to the Examiner's position regarding the asserted references or the rejected claims. Applicants have cancelled the rejected claims merely to expedite issuance of the allowed claims, and hereby preserve the right to again pursue the rejected claims in a continuation application.

In response to the Examiner's approval of the proposed drawing corrections in Applicants' April 3, 2003 submission, Applicants include herewith a separately filed set of formal drawings incorporating the approved corrections.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the claims are patentable over the prior art and the application is in a condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request an early notice of allowance. The Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned for any reason which would help advance the instant application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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